

# **Jeremiah 38:1-13**

## **Grace and Purpose**

---

## Joshua 24:15

<sup>15</sup> If it is disagreeable in your sight to serve the Lord, choose for yourselves today whom you will serve: whether the gods which your fathers served which were beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.”

## Jeremiah 38:1-13

<sup>1</sup> Now Shephatiah the son of Mattan, and Gedaliah the son of Pashhur, and Jucal the son of Shelemiah, and Pashhur the son of Malchijah heard the words that Jeremiah was speaking to all the people, saying, <sup>2</sup> “Thus says the Lord, ‘He who stays in this city will die by the sword and by famine and by pestilence, but he who goes out to the Chaldeans will live and have his own life as booty and stay alive.’ <sup>3</sup> Thus says the Lord, ‘This city will certainly be given into the hand of the army of the king of Babylon and he will capture it.’”

## Jeremiah 38:1-13

<sup>4</sup> Then the officials said to the king, “Now let this man be put to death, inasmuch as he is discouraging the men of war who are left in this city and all the people, by speaking such words to them; for this man is not seeking the well-being of this people but rather their harm.” <sup>5</sup> So King Zedekiah said, “Behold, he is in your hands; for the king can do nothing against you.”

## Jeremiah 38:1-13

<sup>6</sup> Then they took Jeremiah and cast him into the cistern of Malchijah the king's son, which was in the court of the guardhouse; and they let Jeremiah down with ropes. Now in the cistern there was no water but only mud, and Jeremiah sank into the mud. <sup>7</sup> But Ebed-melech the Ethiopian, a eunuch, while he was in the king's palace, heard that they had put Jeremiah into the cistern. Now the king was sitting in the Gate of Benjamin; <sup>8</sup> and Ebed-melech went out from the king's palace and spoke to the king, saying,

## Jeremiah 38:1-13

<sup>9</sup> “My lord the king, these men have acted wickedly in all that they have done to Jeremiah the prophet whom they have cast into the cistern; and he will die right where he is because of the famine, for there is no more bread in the city.” <sup>10</sup> Then the king commanded Ebed-melech the Ethiopian, saying, “Take thirty men from here under your authority and bring up Jeremiah the prophet from the cistern before he dies.”

## Jeremiah 38:1-13

<sup>11</sup> So Ebed-melech took the men under his authority and went into the king's palace to a place beneath the storeroom and took from there worn-out clothes and worn-out rags and let them down by ropes into the cistern to Jeremiah. <sup>12</sup> Then Ebed-melech the Ethiopian said to Jeremiah, "Now put these worn-out clothes and rags under your armpits under the ropes"; and Jeremiah did so. <sup>13</sup> So they pulled Jeremiah up with the ropes and lifted him out of the cistern, and Jeremiah stayed in the court of the guardhouse.

# Grace and Purpose

- I. We will all face times when we must choose whether we will live for God or not



## Matthew 28:18-20

<sup>18</sup> And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. <sup>19</sup> Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

# Grace and Purpose

II. We must faithfully live for God and trust him with the outcome

## Psalm 69:2

<sup>2</sup> I have sunk in deep mire, and there is no foothold;  
I have come into deep waters, and a flood overflows me.

## Psalm 69:14-15

- <sup>14</sup> Deliver me from the mire and do not let me sink;  
May I be delivered from my foes and from the deep waters.
- <sup>15</sup> May the flood of water not overflow me  
Nor the deep swallow me up,  
Nor the pit shut its mouth on me.

# Psalm 40:1-2

- <sup>1</sup> I waited patiently for the Lord;  
And He inclined to me and heard my cry.
- <sup>2</sup> He brought me up out of the pit of destruction, out of the  
miry clay,  
And He set my feet upon a rock making my footsteps firm.

# Grace and Purpose

III. When we stand with God he will always stand with us

## Jeremiah 39:17-18

<sup>17</sup> But I will deliver you on that day,” declares the Lord, “and you will not be given into the hand of the men whom you dread. <sup>18</sup> For I will certainly rescue you, and you will not fall by the sword; but you will have your own life as booty, because you have trusted in Me,” declares the Lord.””